GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – Revenue Department – Sri P.Veerabhadra Rao, former VRO, Dharmavaram Cluster, Kovvur Mandal, West Godavari District – Departmental action initiated - Punishment of withholding of two annual grade increments with cumulative effect imposed – Appeal before the CCLA, dismissed – Revision petition allowed – Modification of major penalty to minor penalty of withholding of one annual increment without cumulative effect – Orders – Issued.

REVENUE (VIGILLANCE.III) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.1397 Dated:22.11.2019

Read the following:

1) Proc R.Dis.No.5264/2014/A1, dt:04.04.2015 of the District Collector, West Godavari District.
2) Progs.Ref.No.VS-II(3)/678/2015, Dated.29.04.2016 of the Chief Commissioner of Land Administration, A.P., Vijayawada.
3) Revision petition Dated.Nil of Sri P.Veerabhadra Rao, former VRO, Dharmavaram Cluster, Kovvur Mandal, West Godavari District.

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ORDER:

Whereas the District Collector, W.G. Dist has issued orders transferring Sri.P.Veerabhadra Rao, VRO, Dharmavaram Village of Kovvur Mandal as VRO, Ballipadu (V), Attili Mandal. But the individual has not reported to duty in the new station, even after directions issued to him from time to time. The negligence of the individual in not joining in new place shows his disobedience in obey the orders of the district administration which is serious violation of service rules and A.P.C.S (Conduct) Rules, 1964. The District Collector, West Godavari has issued following Article of Charges against Sri.P.Veerabhadra Rao, VRO for the these violations.

Article of Charge:

Sri P.Veerabadhra Rao, VRO, Dharmavaram Village of Kovvur Mandal was trasferredand posted as VRO, Attili Mandal in WG Dist Collector's Proc.No.4985/2014/A1(vros)-II-18, Dt.12.11.2014. He has not reported to join in the new station ever after directions issued to him from time to time in the interest of smooth running of district administration, as result the district administration is facing much embarrassing situation in day to day administration due to non joining of VRO at his new station and it is also giving ample scope for adverse comments from public. The orders have also been sent to the Tahsildars concerned for service on the VROs though he has not reported to duty. This is a reckless behaviour by not joining in the place of posting much inconvenience is caused to updation of voter list paddy purchase in ICMS, updation of Web-land land records. The act of Sri P.Veerabhadra Rao, formerly VRO, Dharmavaram Village of Kovvur Mandal shows has negligence in not joining in new place and also shows his disobedience in obey the orders of district administration which is serious violation of service rules.

2. The charged officer has submitted WSD denying charges vide his representation dt:18.12.2014. The Tahsildar, Attili was appointed as Inquiry Officer and submitted his report. The District Collector, after following the due procedure, have opined that the charges framed against him are held proved and awarded punishment of withholding of annual increments of pay for a period of 2 years with cumulative effect as the charges framed against Sri.P.Veerabhadra Rao, VRO, Ballipadu village of Attili Mandal was proved, vide the reference 1st read above.

3. Aggrieved by the above, Sri.P.Veerabhadra Rao, VRO, Ballipadu village of Attili Mandal has filed an appeal before the Chief Commissioner of Land Administration, A.P., against orders of the District Collector, West Godavari. And whereas, after examining the appeal filed the individual, the Chief Commissioner of Land Administration, A.P., have observed that on scrutiny of records, it is evident that the charges against the appellant are proved beyond doubt. The Enquiry Officer has

conducted the regular enquiry following the due procedure. Though the Enquiry Officer has held the charge against the appellant not proved, the fact that he did not report to duty at his new station obeying the orders of the District Administration cannot be denied. Therefore, there is no justification to interfere with the orders of the District Collector, West Godavari. Accordingly, the CCLA has rejected the appeal filed by the individual vide the reference 2nd read above.

4. Aggrieved by the above orders of the appellate authority, Sri.Veerabhadra Rao, former VRO, Dharmavaram of Kovvur (M), West Godavari has filed Revision petition before the Government stating that though his name was not included in the General Transfers list, 2014 he was transferred as VRO, Ballipadu (V), Attili Mandal vide Roc.No.4985 / 2014/A1, dt:12.11.2014. He received the same on 14.11.2014. Due to his wife admitted in Hospital he has not joined in the new station. Later he joined in the new station on 02.12.2014. In meantime, he was placed under suspension w.e.f., 21.11.2014 to 02.12.2014. Hence, the punishment imposed by the District Collector withholding two increments with cumulative is quite unreasonable. There is no mistake in obeying the orders of the District Collector, though his wife suffering from fever with jaundice and he facing ill health he submitted his explanation to the DRO, on 24.11.2014 and joined duty on 02.12.2014. The delay in joining in new station is only arose by unfortunate and not intentional. He never neglected in discharging his duties. Therefore, he has requested to set aside the CCLA, A.P., Procs.No.VSII(3)/687/2015, Dated.29.04.2016 confirming the punishment imposed by the District Collector withholding of (2) annual grade increments with cumulative effect.

5. Government after careful examination of the matter, it is observed that the penalty withholding of annual increments of pay for a period of 2 years with cumulative effect against Sri.P.Veerabhadra Rao, VRO, Ballipadu village of Attili Mandal imposed by the Collector, W.G.Dist in the reference 1st read above and confirmed by the CCLA in the reference 2nd read above, is major penalty and it is highly excessive. The reasons mentioned by the individual for not to join at new station and later joined in the new station on 02.12.2014, is convincing. Hence, it is decided to modify the penalty to that of minor penalty withholding of one annual increment without cumulative effect.

6. Accordingly, in exercise of the powers conferred under Rule 40 of A.P.C.S (CC&A) Rules, 1991, Government hereby order modifying the penalty imposed by the District Collector, W.G. District i.e., withholding of (2) annual grade increments with cumulative effect to that of withholding of one annual increment without cumulative effect against Sri.P.Veerabhadra Rao, VRO, Ballipadu village of Attili Mandal, W.G.District, in the afore said case.

7. The District Collector, West Godavari shall take further action, in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

V.USHARANI
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The District Collector, West Godavari District.
Copy to:
The Chief Commissioner of Land Administration
A.P., Vijayawada
Sf/sc

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER